

(b) a signal generator unit which generates a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of one image;

(c) a sensing unit which, in response to the trigger signal, outputs a signal of one line of the image illuminated by the light source; and

light source control unit which controls such that the first, the second, and the third light sources are sequentially turned on and off in this order in a one-line sensing period in which one line of the image is sensed by the sensing unit and such that, in a non-sensing period in which no image sensing operation is performed, the first, the second, and the third light sources are sequentially turned on and off by the light source control unit in this order before a next trigger signal is generated, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period during which no trigger signal is generated over a length of time greater than the length of time of a one-line sensing period.

7. (amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period.

8. (amended) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period.

14. (twice amended) A method of sensing an image, comprising the steps of:

(a) emitting light which is different in wavelength from first, second, and third light sources;

(b) generating a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

(c) in response to the trigger signal, outputting one line of the image illuminated with the emitted light; and

(d) in addition to sequentially turning on and off the first, the second, and the third light sources in this order in a one-line sensing period, turning on and off the first, the second, and the third light sources in this order in a non-sensing period before a next trigger signal is generated, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period during which no trigger signal is generated over a length of time greater than the length of time of a one-line sensing period.

20. (amended) A method of sensing an image according to claim 14, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period.

21. (amended) A method of sensing an image according to claim 20, wherein said sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period.

27. (twice amended) A control memory in which is stored a program comprising the steps of:

(a) emitting light which is different in wavelength from first, second, and third light sources;

(b) generating a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

(c) in response to the trigger signal, outputting one line of the image illuminated with the emitted light; and

(d) in addition to sequentially turning on and off the first, the second, and the third light sources in this order from in a one-line sensing period, turning on and off the first, the second, and

the third light sources in this order in a non-sensing period before a next trigger signal is generated, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period during which no trigger signal is generated over a length of time greater than the length of time of a one-line sensing period.

33. (amended) A control memory according to claim 27, wherein said program causes the sensing unit to output a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period.

34. (amended) A control memory according to claim 33, wherein said program causes said sensing unit to output a signal once during a one-line sensing period.

70. (new) An image sensing apparatus comprising:

- (a) a light source which emits first light, second light, and third light which are different in wavelength;

- (b) a signal generator unit which generates a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

- (c) a sensing unit which, in response to the trigger signal, outputs a signal of one line of the image illuminated by the light source; and

- (d) a light source control unit which controls the light source such that the first light, the second light, and the third light are sequentially emitted in this order in a one-line sensing period in which one line of the image is sensed by the sensing unit and such that if a trigger signal is generated in a non-sensing period, emission of the first light is stopped and the second light, the third light, and the first light are sequentially emitted in this order, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period, in a one-line sensing period, during which only the first light is emitted.

71. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the first light is light which is first emitted at the beginning of a sensing operation performed by the sensing unit.

72. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the first light is light which is slower in a rising speed when being turned on than the second and third light.

73. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a color image.

74. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a monochrome image.

75. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period;

76. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period;

77. (new) An apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the first light, the second light, and the third light are each one of red light, green light, and blue light.

78. (new) A method of sensing an image, comprising the steps of:

- (a) generating a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;
- (b) sequentially emitting first, second, and third light in a one-line sensing period,
- (c) in response to the trigger signal, outputting one line of the image illuminated with the emitted light; and
- (d) in addition to sequentially emitting the first, second and third light in the one-line sensing period, if a trigger signal is generated in a non-sensing period, stopping emission of the first light, and sequentially emitting the second light, the third light, and the first light in this order, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period, in a one-line sensing period, during which only the first light is emitted.

79. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the first light is light which is first emitted at the beginning of a sensing operation performed by the sensing unit.

80. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the first light is light which is slower in a rising speed when being turned on than the second and third light.

81. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a color image.

82. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a monochrome image.

83. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period;

84. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period;

85. (new) An apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the first light, the second light, and the third light are each one of red light, green light, and blue light.

86. (new) A control memory in which is stored a program comprising the steps of:

(a) generating a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

(b) sequentially emitting first, second, and third light in a one-line sensing period,

(c) in response to the trigger signal, outputting one line of the image illuminated with the emitted light; and

(d) in addition to sequentially emitting the first, second and third light in the one-line sensing period, if a trigger signal is generated in a non-sensing period, stopping emission of the first light, and sequentially emitting the second light, the third light, and the first light in this order, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period, in a one-line sensing period, during which only the

first light is emitted.

87. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the first light is light which is first emitted at the beginning of a sensing operation performed by the sensing unit.

88. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the first light is light which is slower in a rising speed when being turned on than the second and third light.

89. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a color image.

90. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a monochrome image.

91. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period;

92. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period;

93. (new) An apparatus according to claim 86, wherein the first light, the second light, and the third light are each one of red light, green light, and blue light.

94. (new) An image sensing apparatus comprising:

(a) a light source which emits first light, second light, and third light which are different in wavelength;

(b) a signal generator unit which generates a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

(c) a sensing unit which, in response to the trigger signal, outputs a signal of one line of the image illuminated by the light source; and

(d) a light source control unit which controls the light source such that the first light, the second light, and the third light are sequentially emitted in this order to a one-line sensing period in which one line of the image is sensed by the sensing unit and such that predetermined light is emitted when a trigger signal is generated in a non-sensing period, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period during which no trigger signal is generated over a length of time greater than the length of time of a one-line sensing period, and wherein the predetermined light is the second light in the case where the first light is being emitted when the trigger signal is generated, while the predetermined light is the first light in the case where light other than the first light is being emitted when the trigger signal is generated.

95. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the first light is light which is first emitted at the beginning of a sensing operation performed by the sensing unit.



96. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the first light is light which is slower in a rising speed when being turned on than the second and third light.

97. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a color image.

98. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a monochrome image.

99. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period;

100. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period;

101. (new) An apparatus according to claim 94, wherein the first light, the second light, and the third light are each one of red light, green light, and blue light.

102. (new) A method of sensing an image, comprising the steps of:

(a) generating a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

(b) sequentially emitting first, second, and third light in a one-line sensing period,

(c) in response to the trigger signal, outputting one line of the image illuminated with the emitted light; and

(d) in addition to sequentially emitting the first, second and third light in the one-line sensing period, emitting predetermined light when a trigger signal is generated in a non-sensing period, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period during which no trigger signal is generated over a length of time greater than the length of time of a one-line sensing period, and wherein the predetermined light is the second light in the case where the first light is being emitted when the trigger signal is generated, while the predetermined light is the first light in the case where light other than the first light is being emitted when the trigger signal is generated.

103. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the first light is light which is first emitted at the beginning of a sensing operation performed by the sensing unit.

104. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the first light is light which is slower in a rising speed when being turned on than the second and third light.

105. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a color image.

106. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a monochrome image.

107. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period;

108. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period;

109. (new) An apparatus according to claim 102, wherein the first light, the second light, and the third light are each one of red light, green light, and blue light.

110. (new) A control memory in which is stored a program comprising the steps of:

(a) generating a trigger signal for triggering an operation of sensing one line of an image;

(b) sequentially emitting first, second, and third light in a one-line sensing period,

(c) in response to the trigger signal, outputting one line of the image illuminated with the emitted light; and

(d) in addition to sequentially emitting the first, second and third light in the one-line sensing period, emitting predetermined light when a trigger signal is generated in a non-sensing period, wherein the non-sensing period is such a period during which no trigger signal is generated over a length of time greater than the length of time of a one-line sensing period, and wherein the

predetermined light is the second light in the case where the first light is being emitted when the trigger signal is generated, while the predetermined light is the first light in the case where light other than the first light is being emitted when the trigger signal is generated.

111. (new) An apparatus according to claim 110, wherein the first light is light which is first emitted at the beginning of a sensing operation performed by the sensing unit.

112. (new) An apparatus according to claim 110, wherein the first light is light which is slower in a rising speed when being turned on than the second and third light.

113. (new) An apparatus according to claim 110, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a color image.

114. (new) An apparatus according to claim 110, wherein the light source control unit controls the light source such that the plurality of light rays are sequentially emitted whereby the sensing unit senses a monochrome image.

115. (new) An apparatus according to claim 110, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal a plurality of times during a one-line sensing period;

116. (new) An apparatus according to claim 110, wherein the sensing unit outputs a signal once during a one-line sensing period;